



Also submitted herewith, and listed on the attached form PTO-1449, is German Publication No. DE 100 34 409, which was published on January 1, 2002 and discussed at page 1 of the specification of the instant application.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the materials cited and indicate such consideration by appropriately initialing the enclosed PTO-1449 and including a copy of the initialed form in the next official communication.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the documents are relevant or material to the claims. They are only cited as constituting related art of which Applicants are aware.

Applicants note that while this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months from the filing date, Applicants have not received a first action on the merits from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Accordingly, consideration of the enclosed document is required under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3).

However, if the first action on the merits has been mailed prior to the filing date of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge any fees necessary to ensure consideration of the documents cited herein to Deposit Account No. 19-0089, including the amount of \$180.00 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for consideration of the documents under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
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